

Chiming In

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF THE CHIMES
NEWS AND EVENTS

A Diverse and Loving Christian Community Accepting of All



August 2025

www.churchofthechimes.org | office@churchofthechimes.org | 818-789-7124

14715 Sherman Oaks, CA 91423



Dr. Elizabeth Bingham, Senior Minister
Rev. Curtis Peek, Associate Minister
Jennifer Lee, Church Office Manager
Allayne Baker, Preschool Director
Joi Staves, Wedding & Events Coordinator
Javier De la Torre, Facilities



SERMONS:

August 3: Luke 12: 13-21 You Can't take it with You
August 10: Psalm 33: 12-22 Steadfast
August 17:
August 24: Luke 13: 10-17 Scoff Law?
August 31: Luke 14: 1, 7-14 Assigned Seating



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FROM OUR SENIOR MINISTER

Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Bingham

Faithfully Yours

It is August, summer is ending soon—and for our students sooner than ever with most schools beginning the new school year well before Labor Day. But it is still summer, with the pace slow, the heat high, and time to take a breath, pause, stop, enjoy, relax... So I shamelessly have some new words to an old song with apologies to writer Paul Simon and Art Garfunkel who sang it with him...

Slow down, you move too fast.
You have to make this quiet last,
Just sit right down and take some time
Looking for rest and feeling groovy,
Ba da da da da da feeling groovy.
Hello dawn sun, how you're shining
I find your brightness life defining
Feeling close to God right now
Doo ait n doo doo feeling groovy

There's no work to do, I'm on my vacation
It's time to relax in God's new creation
Let the wonder of God's grace drop like petals on me
Life I love you, all is groovy!

Relax. Enjoy. Bask in the wonder of the world and in God's inescapable, unconditional love!

-Beth

AUGUST 2025 HAPPENINGS

- **BE BOLD:** Friday 1st and 15th 6pm
- **COUNCIL MEETING:** No meeting this month - Meeting on Sep 2 at 6:30am
- **WOMENS ASSOCIATION MEETING:** August 9th at 10am
- **DEACONS MEETING:** August 17^h 6:30pm
- **CE MEETING:** August 17th at 12pm
- **TRUSTEE MEETING:** August 19th at 6:30 pm
- **VESPERS:** August 21st 6:30pm
- **CRAFT CREATIONS:** MEETS MOST TUESDAYS at 10:00am in Dreier Hall
- **BROWN BAG BIBLE:** TUESDAYS at 12 Noon in Dreier Hall
- **PAINTING CLASS:** THURSDAYS 10:00am- 12:00pm in Dreier Hall
- **ZUMBA:** WEDNESDAYS AND FRIDAYS 9:45 in Dreier Hall
- **WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY:** MEETS WEDNESDAYS at 7pm via Zoom

All women of any faith are invited to our gathering of caring, sharing and loving women. For more information contact Jane Poole via email at jane.churchchimes@sbcglobal.net.



NACCC CONFERENCE REPORT

Wade Young

The 71st Annual National Association of Congregational Christian Churches Conference was held in St. Louis, Missouri, at the Renaissance St. Louis Airport Hotel from June 21-24. The theme of this year's conference was "Come and See", based on the scripture verse in John 1:46. Our Senior Minister, Reverend Dr. Beth Bingham, was one of the conference speakers and spoke on the future of the church in a talk titled "Back to the Future". Our Deacons Chair, Wade Young, attended as our church's voting delegate to the conference.

A variety of topics were discussed in both the plenary sessions, as well as the workshops including "Getting Started in Grassroots Organizing" and "Come to the Table: Healing Hearts & Bridging Divides". There was also an intergenerational missions project to prepare meals for the less fortunate, as well as over 18 of the National Association's missions represented at the conference, including Fishers of Men and Panamerican Institute. You can learn more about the missions the National Association supports by going to: www.naccc.org/missions-outreach/mission-partners/ Next year's conference will be held in Springfield Missouri and our Moderator, Diane Delaney, will be attending as our designated voting delegate.

COUNCIL

Diane Delaney, Moderator

Council met on 7/1 and approved the creation of a by-laws review committee consisting of Beth, Diane, John S., Marie, Martha, Tina, Rob Y., and Robert Jones. We are reviewing the by-laws and will meet soon to discuss proposed changes. A Congregational meeting will be held for review and approval. If you have any recommended changes, please contact a committee member.

Council is NOT meeting in August. We are taking a much-deserved break. Our next meeting will be 9/2 at 6:30pm in Dreier Hall.

THANKS TO ALL OUR VBS VOLUNTEERS AND CAMPERS!

Tina Jasiukonis

We just wrapped up an amazing Vacation Bible School at Church of the Chimes, and our hearts are so full. A huge THANK YOU to our incredible camp leader Tina Jasiukonis and to every volunteer who poured so much love and energy into making this camp so special.

We're deeply grateful for the amazing team who made it all happen: Pastor Beth, Jan, Jeri, Joi, Cindi, Michele, Shirley, Barbara, Susan, Ian, Tony, Devon, Finn, Robin, Charlotte, Ellie, Mateo, Ricky, Paige, Anika, Sophia, Lily Marie, Luke, Perla, and our wonderful CITs: Viviana, Adeline, and Gigi

This year, we were thrilled to welcome 19 campers who brought enthusiasm, curiosity, and joy to every moment of the week. It was inspiring to watch them learn and grow as they explored how to put their trust in God—whether they're feeling afraid, facing challenges, or called to share the good news of His love through Jesus Christ.

thank you

Our camp call out was:

"Whenever I'm afraid, I put my trust in you." – Psalm 56:3

Missed VBS? You're in luck. We're continuing the VBS experience during Sunday School throughout the rest of the summer. Come join us each week and enjoy the final days of summer with faith, friendship, and fun at Church of the Chimes Sunday School.

Thank you all for making this VBS so unforgettable. We can't wait to see how God continues to work through each and every one of you.

COTC HOSTS FOSTERALL SUMMER CAMP

Hayley Cabral

This summer, Church of the Chimes was honored to open its campus to the Hilaroo® Foundation and FosterAll for a truly special four-week long camp designed for foster and adoptive children and rescue dogs. Founded by actress Hilary Swank, the Hilaroo® Foundation—together with FosterAll—brought together 80 children and dogs to learn about trust, bonding, and self-esteem in a supportive and loving environment.

Each day was carefully guided by a team that included a behavior specialist, therapist, dog trainer, and dedicated camp counselors. Children and dogs alike gained invaluable lessons on building relationships, unmasking emotions, and creating healthy connections with both humans and canines.



FosterAll, which began in 1985 through the vision of Dr. Mary Rotzien, continues to help children in foster care find safe, supportive, and loving homes. Since its start, FosterAll has partnered with over 350 faith communities and has placed more than 3,600 children into permanent families.

We were humbled to witness the transformational power of this camp as children and rescue dogs formed deep bonds and grew in confidence. Plans are already in the works for more weeks of Hilaroo® Camp in the future, and we are grateful to have played a part in this life-changing program.

To learn more about their amazing foundation check out **[www. fosterall.org](http://www.fosterall.org)**

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CORNER

Tina Jasiukonis

Be Bold continues to meet on the first and third Friday of each month from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. All teens are welcome to join this youth group. Sunday School is going strong with our summer lessons and projects focused on the Books of the Bible, Fruit of the Spirit, and The Ten Commandments. We could not do this without our devoted volunteers who teach Sunday School each month: Barbara, Jan, Kerry, Keith, Shahnaz, Tina, and Julia. If you or someone you know is interested in volunteering with Sunday School, please email Christianed@churchofthechimes.org.

We are so proud of our confirmation students, who will be completing their classes in a couple of months. Thank you to Pastor Beth for leading this group of wonderful teens. Save the date for our annual Rally Day, happening on the second Sunday in September during the church service. GriefShare is returning in September, co-facilitated by Tanny and Tina. Christian Ed is helping out with games at the Golden West Fair in October. Please email us if you or someone you know is interested in volunteering with the games or helping at the prize table.

God bless!



GETTING TO KNOW BARBARA DOWNS

Born in New York, Barbara Downs has always carried a deep love for people, learning, and the arts. Her professional life was one of dedication and heart—she spent 38 years as a teacher, specializing in special education. With compassion and patience, she helped students with unique needs thrive, leaving a lasting impact on generations of learners.

As a child, Barbara was full of dreams and imagination. She played piano and studied tap and ballet, often envisioning herself as a Rockette, dancing on the big stage. Though life took her in a different direction, her passion for the arts never faded. She continues to enjoy attending plays and finding joy in the beauty of performance and storytelling. At Congregational Church of the Chimes, Barbara’s generous spirit has become a cornerstone of our community. She leads the Bouquet Circle at the Church of the Chimes—a women’s luncheon filled with warmth, laughter, and shared stories. Through this gathering, Barbara helps build connection and friendship among the women of our church, creating a space where life experiences are honored and celebrated.

Barbara also contributes her artistic flair by designing our church bulletin board. Each display she creates is a reflection of her care, creativity, and the love she holds for our congregation. It’s a quiet but powerful ministry that uplifts everyone who passes by. When asked what she hopes to hear when she gets to heaven, Barbara smiles and says, “You did the best job you could.” Those who know her have no doubt she will. Her legacy is one of service, kindness, and heartfelt community. Barbara shares that what she loves most about the Congregational Church of the Chimes is the people, and we can truly say, the feeling is mutual. We are so grateful for you, Barbara!

Portrait by Michele Marot





AUGUST 2025



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
					<u>1</u> BE BOLD 6pm 9:45am Zumba DH 10:00am 10 at 10 6:00pm BE BOLD 7:00pm RPC ~ Sanctuary	<u>2</u> 9:00am Kingdom Camp B-Ball 9:00am LM&S 9:55am LM&S
<u>3</u> 10:30am COTC Worship Svc 10:45am Sunday School 1:30pm RPC Worship Svc 7:30pm AI Anon ~ DH	<u>4</u> 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm Sea Scouts 7:00pm AA Meeting ~ BH 7:30pm AI-Anon ~ DH	<u>5</u> 10:0am Craft Creations ~ DH 12Noon Brown Bag Bible 3:00pm Gymnastics CE 4:00pm Drumming BH 7:00pm LC Choir ~ BH	<u>6</u> 9:45am Zumba ~ DH 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm Women's Bible Study 7:00pm Boy Scouts~ BH	<u>7</u> 10am Art Class DH 4:00pm Drumming BH 7:00pm AA DH	<u>8</u> 9:45am Zumba DH 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm RPC ~ Sanctuary	<u>9</u> WOMENS ASSOCIATION MEETING 10am 9:00am Kingdom Camp B-Ball 9:00am LM&S 9:55am LM&S
<u>10</u> 10:30am COTC Worship Svc 10:45am Sunday School 1:30pm RPC Worship Svc 2pm Confirmation 7:30pm AI Anon ~ DH	<u>11</u> 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm Sea Scouts 7:00pm AA Meeting ~ BH 7:30pm AI-Anon ~ DH	<u>12</u> 10:00am Craft Creations DH 12Noon Brown Bag Bible DH 3:00pm Gymnastics CE 4:00pm Drumming 7:00pm LC Choir ~ BH	<u>13</u> 9:45am Zumba ~ DH 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm Women's Bible Study 7:00pm Boy Scouts~ BH	<u>14</u> VESPERS 6:30pm 10am Art Class DH 4:00pm Drumming BH 7:00pm AA DH	<u>15</u> BE BOLD 6pm 9:45 Zumba DH 10:00am 10 at 10 6:00pm BE BOLD 7:00pm RPC ~ Sanctuary	<u>16</u> 9:00am Kingdom Camp B-Ball 9:00am LM&S 9:55am LM&S
<u>17</u> CE MEETING 12pm DEACONS MEETING 6:30pm 10:30am COTC Worship Svc 10:45am Sunday School 1:30pm RPC Worship Svc 7:30pm AI Anon ~ DH	<u>18</u> 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm Sea Scouts 7:00pm AA Meeting ~ BH 7:30pm AI-Anon ~ DH	<u>19</u> TRUSTEES 6:30pm 10:0am Craft Creations ~ Dreier 12Noon Brown Bag Bible 3:00pm Gymnastics CE 4:00pm Drumming BH 7:00pm LC Choir ~ BH	<u>20</u> 9:45am Zumba ~ DH 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm Women's Bible Study 7:00pm Boy Scouts~ BH	<u>21</u> 10am Art Class DH 4:00pm Drumming 7:00pm AA DH	<u>22</u> 9:45am Zumba DH 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm RPC ~ Sanctuary	<u>23</u> 9:00am Kingdom Camp B-Ball 9:00am LM&S 9:55am LM&S
<u>24</u> 10:30am COTC Worship Svc 10:45am Sunday School 1:30pm RPC Worship Svc 7:30pm AI Anon ~ DH	<u>25</u> 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm Sea Scouts 7:00pm AA Meeting ~ BH 7:30pm AI-Anon ~ DH	<u>26</u> 10:0am Craft Creations ~ Dreier 12Noon Brown Bag Bible 3:00pm Gymnastics CE 4:00pm Drumming 7:00pm LC Choir ~ BH	<u>27</u> 9:45am Zumba ~ DH 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm Women's Bible Study 7:00pm Boy Scouts~ BH	<u>28</u> 10am Art Class DH 4:00pm Drumming BH 7:00pm AA DH	<u>29</u> 9:45am Zumba DH 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm RPC ~ Sanctuary	<u>30</u> 9:00am Kingdom Camp B-Ball 9:00am LM&S 9:55am LM&S
<u>31</u> 10:30am COTC Worship Svc 10:45am Sunday School 1:30pm RPC Worship Svc 7:30pm AI Anon ~ DH						